

Recording of Victim Is Played at Trial Of Black Panther

From Our Wire Services

NEW HAVEN, Conn., July 23.—The first of two tape recording containing Black Panther Alex Rackley's alleged "confession" that he was an informer was played Thursday in the trial of a fellow Panther charged in Rackley's death.

Warren Kimbro, another Panther member who has pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in Rackley's torture slaying last year, was on the witness stand with a transcript of the broken and discontinuous tape and identified each speaker during the Superior Court session.

Erika Hudgins, a woman Panther member, described on the tape how the information was obtained from Rackley, first by a beating around the face and also by pouring a "couple of buckets of hot water" on him. Earlier testimony said the water was scalding when it was poured over Rackley's shoulders.

The 12-member jury, which includes three blacks, listened almost impassively as the often garbled recordings were stopped and started in the trial of the New Haven Panther captain, Lonnie McLucas, who is charged with the first-degree murder of Rackley.

Rackley allegedly admitted he was an informer a few hours before he was shot to death May 19, 1969, in a Middlefield swamp. Kimbro said

his admissions were recorded for national officers of the militant black organization.

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